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Attorney for Material Witnesses

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

Hon. BARRY TED MOSKOWITZ

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)	Case No. 08CR2033BTM
	)	Mag. No. 08MJ1637
Plaintiff,)	
	)	NOTICE OF HEARING ON
v.	)	MOTION FOR VIDEOTAPE
	)	DEPOSITION AND SUBSEQUENT
DIANA NATIVIDAD HARO,	)	VOLUNTARY DEPARTURE OF
	)	MATERIAL WITNESS
	)	DATE: July 25, 2008
	)	TIME: 11:30 A. M.
Defendants.	)	DEPT: MOSKOWITZ
)	

TO: ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on July 25, 2008 at the UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT located at 940 Front Street, San Diego, CA 92101 before the above-named Judge at 11:30 A. M. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, the material witness ROBERTO ROMERO-CORDOVA will move the Court for an Order that they be subjected to a videotape deposition prior to trial and subsequent voluntary departure.

This motion will be based on 18 U.S.C. 3144 in that the witnesses' testimony can be adequately secured by deposition and further detention is not necessary to prevent a failure of justice.

1 This motion is further based on this notice of motion, the
2 memorandum of points and authorities and declarations filed
3 herewith, and as such other and further evidence as may be
4 presented at the hearing of the motion.

5 Respectfully submitted,

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7 DATED: July 3, 2008

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9 /s/_____
10 JONATHAN DAVID FRANK,
11 Attorney for Material Witnesses
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1 California State Bar Number 89384
The Law Office of JONATHAN DAVID FRANK
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5 Attorney for Material Witness
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8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
9 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

10 HON. BARRY TED MOSKOWITZ

11 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)	Criminal No. 08CR2033BTM
	)	Magistrate No. 08MJ1637
12 Plaintiff,	)	<u>PROOF OF SERVICE</u>
)	
13 v.)	
)	
14 DIANA NATIVDAD HARO,)	
)	
15 Defendants.)	
)	

16
17 I, the undersigned, say:

18 1) That I am over eighteen years of age, a resident of the County
19 of San Diego, State of California, and not a party in the within action;

20 2) That my business address is: 160 Thorn Street Suite 2, San
21 Diego, CA 92103.

22 3) That I served the VIDEO DEPOSITION MOTION AND ACCOMPANYING
23 PAPERS on all counsel involved in this matter, by causing them to be
24 delivered a copy via the Court's email notification system.

25 I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and
26 correct. Executed on July 3, 2008 at Poway, California.
27

28 S/JONATHAN DAVID FRANK
JONATHAN DAVID FRANK

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160 Thorn Street Suite 2
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(858) 722-2100
3 State Bar Number 89384
4 Attorney for Material Witnesses
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8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
9 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

10 Hon. BARRY TED MOSKOWITZ

11 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)	Case No. 08CR2033BTM
12 Plaintiff,	)	Mag. No. 08MJ1637
13 v.	)	DECLARATION OF ROBERTO
14 DIANA NATIVDAD HARO,	)	ROMERO-CORDOVA
15 Defendants.	)	IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR
	)	VIDEO DEPOSITION OF
	)	MATERIAL WITNESS
	)	DATE:
	)	TIME:
	)	DEPT:

17
18 I, ROBERTO ROMERO-CORDOVA declare:

19 I am over the age of 21 and if called as a witness, I could
20 competently testify to the matters declared herein. I have been in
21 federal custody since May 25, 2008. I have been held as material
22 witness in the above captioned case. I have been unable to locate
23 a surety to post bond.

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3 State Bar Number 89384
4 Attorney for Material Witnesses

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8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
9 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
10 Hon. BARRY TED MOSKOWITZ
11

12
13 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,) Case No. 08CR2033BTM
) Mag. No. 08MJ1637
14 Plaintiff,)
)
15 v.) DECLARATION OF COUNSEL
) IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR
) VIDEO DEPOSITION OF
16 DIANA NATIVDAD HARO,) MATERIAL WITNESS
)
17) DATE: July 25, 2008
Defendants.) TIME: 11:30 A. M.
18) DEPT: MOSKOWITZ

19 I, JONATHAN DAVID FRANK declare:

20 I am an attorney duly licensed to practice before all the courts
21 of this State and this District and Circuit. I am the attorney of
22 record for the material witnesses in the above action. I have
23 personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this action and could
24 testify competently thereto if called.

25 My client, ROBERTO ROMERO-CORDOVA, in this action, has been in
26 federal custody since May 25, 2008. He has been held as a material
27 witness in the above captioned case. My client has been unable to
28 locate a surety to post bond.

1 This case was indicted on or about June 18, 2008.

2 My client has indicated to me that each day he spends in custody
3 is a hardship to my client and his family as he is unable to help to
4 support his family as set forth in his declaration filed concurrently
5 herewith.

6 The testimony of the witness could be secured via videotaped
7 deposition. This is a procedure in routine practice in this district
8 in material witness cases. At such a deposition, all parties would
9 be given the opportunity to fully and completely examine the witness.
10 In addition, the proceedings would be videotaped creating a visual
11 and auditory record of the proceeding. Such videotaped deposition
12 could be introduced at trial in stead of the live testimony of the
13 material witness.

14 Based on the above it respectfully requested that this motion be
15 granted, that said deposition take place at the earliest possible
16 time, and that my client be allowed to voluntarily return to his home
17 in Mexico immediately thereafter.

18 I declare under the penalty of perjury under the laws of the
19 United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct of my
20 own personal knowledge except as to those matters stated to be based
21 upon information and belief and, as to those matters, I am informed
22 and believe that they are true and correct. Executed this July 3,
23 2008 in Poway, California.

24 /s/_____
JONATHAN DAVID FRANK,
25 Attorney for Material Witnesses
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8 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
9 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

10 Hon. BARRY TED MOSKOWITZ
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13 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	Case No. 08CR2033BTM
)	Mag. No. 08MJ1637
14 Plaintiff,)	
	)	MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND
15 v.	)	AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT
	)	OF VIDEOTAPE DEPOSITION
16 DIANA NATIVIDAD HARO,	)	AND SUBSEQUENT VOLUNTARY
	)	DEPARTURE OF MATERIAL
	)	WITNESS
	)	DATE: July 25, 2008
	)	TIME: 11:30 A. M.
18 Defendant.	)	DEPT: MOSKOWITZ
19 _____)	

20 I

21 BY STATUTE AND CASE LAW,
22 THE MOTION SHOULD BE GRANTED

23 According to 18 U.S.C. 3144, "no material witness may be
24 detained because of inability to comply with any condition of
25 release if the testimony of such witness can be adequately secured
26 by deposition and if further detention is not necessary to prevent
27 a failure of justice".

28 Furthermore, Fed. R. Crim. P. 15(a) specifies that a material

1 witness may make a motion requesting such a deposition and the
2 district court has the authority to order the taking of the
3 deposition and thereafter to discharge the detained witness from
4 custody.

5 As the Fifth Circuit stated in Aguilar-Ayala v. Ruiz, 973 F.2d
6 411 (1992) at page 413:

7 Read together, Rule 15(a) and section 3144 provide a
8 detained witness with a mechanism for securing his own
9 release. He must file a "written motion", Fed. R. Crim.
10 P. 15(a), requesting that he be deposed. The motion must
11 demonstrate that his "testimony can adequately be secured
12 by deposition" and that "further detention is not
13 necessary to prevent a failure of justice" 18 U.S.C.
14 section 3144. Upon such showing, the district court must
15 order his deposition and prompt release. Id. ("No
16 material witness may be detained" if he makes such a
17 showing). Although Rule 15(a) is couched in the
18 permissive "May" not the mandatory "shall", Fed. R. Crim.
19 P. 15(a) ("the court...may direct that the witness'
20 deposition be taken"), it is clear from a conjunctive
21 reading with section 3144 that the discretion to deny the
22 motion is limited to those instances in which the
23 deposition would not serve as an adequate substitute for
24 the witness' live testimony: that a "failure of justice"
25 would ensue were the witness released...**absent a "failure
26 of justice", the witness must be released.**

27 This is also the law in the Ninth Circuit as demonstrated by
28 the very recent case of Torres-Ruiz v. United States District Court
for the Southern District of California, 120 F3d 933 (9th Cir 1997).
The court "agreed with the reasoning of [Aguilar-Ayala, supra]" and
reversed Judge Huff who had denied a motion for a deposition on
facts virtually identical to the instant action . As the court
stated:

In the instant case, two young men ages 19 and 22, have
apparently been randomly selected out of a group of 27
undocumented aliens and detained for a period of over 60
days as material witnesses in a straightforward and
uncomplicated alien smuggling prosecution. These young
men state without opposition by either party to this case
that they are the sole support for their respective
families in Mexico, and that every day they remain in

1 custody is a tremendous hardship on those family members.
2 (Kilpatrick Declaration at 2) Neither petitioner is able
3 to provide a surety for \$1000.00 bond. It is exactly
circumstances such as these for which section 3144
appears to be designed.

4 Continued detention of the material witnesses after the video
5 deposition is not necessary because the videotaped deposition
6 itself is admissible evidence at trial, United States v. Canan 48
7 F. 3d 954 (6th Cir. 1995) cert. denied 116 S. Ct. 716 (1996); United
8 States v. Santos-Pinon 146 F 3d 734 (9th Cir. 1998).

9 Respectfully submitted,

10 DATED: July 3, 2008

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12 /s/_____
13 JONATHAN DAVID FRANK
14 Attorney for Material Witness
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